PATENT

Docket No. 12218/3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

Satoru YOKOMIZO et al.

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TRANSFORMANT AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING

POLYESTER BY USING THE SAME

Art Unit

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FOR PATENTS

Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR:

Prior to examining the above-identified national phase patent application, please amend the application as follows.

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 3-7, 9-10, 12-15, and 17, as follows:

1. A transformant

wherein at least one kind of gene expression cassette comprising a polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene has been introduced into a yeast.

2. The transformant according to Claim 1

wherein the polyester is a copolymer resulting from the to copolymerization of 3-hydroxyalkanoic acids of the following general formula (1);

$$\begin{array}{c}
R \\
HO-CH-C-C-OH \\
H_2 O
\end{array}$$
 (1)